

Remarks

On entry of this response, claims 3, 6, 8, 10-12, 15, 18, 20 and 22-24 are amended and claims 1 and 13 canceled. Claims 3, 6, 11, 15, 18 and 23 are amended to rewrite in independent form including the limitations of the base claim. Claims 8 and 10 are amended to depend from amended claim 6. Claim 12 is amended to depend from amended claim 11. Claims 20 and 22 are amended to depend from amended claim 18. Claim 24 is amended to depend from amended claim 23. No new matter is added.

Applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing amendment should be entered and considered.

Claims 25-36 were withdrawn from further consideration. Now pending in the instant application are claims 3-12, and 15-24, of which claims 3, 6, 11, 15, 18 and 23 are independent. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims define over the prior art of record.

I. Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 6, 7, 11, 15, 18, 19 and 23 are indicated to recite patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. See Office Action, page 2. In the forgoing amendment, claims 3, 6, 11, 15, 18 and 23 are rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner pass the claims to allowance.

II. Claims Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In the Office Action, claims 1, 4, 8-10, 13, 16 and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipate by US 5,779,735 (hereinafter “Molino”). See Office Action, page 3. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection in view of the amended claims.

A. Claim 1

Claim 1 is canceled. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claim 1.

B. Claim 4

Claim 4 depends from amended claim 3 and, as such, incorporates the patentable subject matter recited in amended claim 3. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claim 4.

C. Claims 8-10

Claims 8-10 depend from amended claim 6 and, as such, incorporate the patentable subject matter recited in amended claim 6. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claims 8-10.

D. Claim 13

Claim 13 is canceled. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claim 13.

E. Claim 16

Claim 16 depends from amended claim 15 and, as such, incorporates the patentable subject matter recited in amended claim 15. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claim 16.

F. Claims 20-22

Claims 20-22 depend from amended claim 18 and, as such, incorporate the patentable subject matter recited in amended claim 18. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claims 20-22.

III. Rejection of Claims 5 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action, claims 5 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Molino reference. See Office Action, page 4. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection in view of the amended claims.

A. Claim 5

Claim 5 depends from amended claim 3 and, as such, incorporates the patentable subject matter recited in amended claim 3. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 5.

B. Claim 17

Claim 17 depends from amended claim 15 and, as such, incorporates the patentable subject matter recited in amended claim 15. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 17.

IV. Rejection of Claims 12 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action, claims 12 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Molino reference in view of GB 2244006 A. See Office Action, page 4. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection in view of the amended claims.

A. Claim 12

Claim 12 depends from amended claim 11 and, as such, incorporates the patentable subject matter recited in amended claim 11. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 12.

B. Claim 24

Claim 24 depends from amended claim 23 and, as such, incorporates the patentable subject matter recited in amended claim 23. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 24.

V. Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and arguments, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner feel that a

teleconference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the Applicant's attorney at (617) 227-7400.

Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. TIW-017US. In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith, and the requisite petition does not accompany this response, the undersigned hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized to be charged to the aforementioned Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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